"Today is gone. Today was fun.
Tomorrow is another one.
Every day, from here to there,
funny things are everywhere."
-Dr. Seuss

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And now for a new playlist of...

Songs Stuck In My Head
(for better or worse)

"Colors Flying High" / Reasons Royal Springsteen
"How Can I Keep From Singing?" / Bruce
"Blackbird" / The Beatles
"In the Gardea of Allah" / Don Healey
"Fell On Black Days" / Soundgarden
"San Jacinto" / Peter Gabriel
"Anything She Does" / Genesis
"Ana Ng" / They Might Be Giants
"How Sincere" / OMC
"Fare Thee Well" / Oscar Isaac, Marcus Mumford
"Flowers In Your Hair" / The Lumineers
"Drag Me" / Roger Miller

In ancient Greece, tossing an apple to someone was interpreted as proposing them.

Careful with your produce.

cherry bounce

(one of George Washington's favorites)

In a 2 quart jar, combine:

- ½ cups XO brandy
- 1 lb. cherries - puncture each first
- ½ cinnamon stick
- 1 allspice berry
- Pinch of nutmeg
- 2 ½ cups sugar

Mix sugar & spices thoroughly in the brandy.

Let sit upstairs in the light for a week, shaking periodically. After that, age for 3 months in cellar/cupboard.

Ever flash back to the lost places of your youth?

Sam's Town was one of my big ones- a huge complex of food, peanut shells on the floor, ragtime penny-arcade vibes, old time electro-mechanical machines like mutoscopes, and the best-damn arcade an impressionable kid could want.

It has been gone our 20 years now...

... so what are yours?

hot take

Sticking the flag onto a vehicle to get utterly shredded in the high speed wind doesn't say much for either your patriotism or your common sense.

You Should Read:

A lot of medieval writing can be very dogmatic and stuffy. Not this one. The Reynard stories are a series of animal fables set in an analog of court life from the period (around the 12th century at earliest) in which Reynard, the equivalent of a minor noble, basically screws over everyone (sometimes literally) for his own benefit, evading King Noble's ineffectual efforts to punish him.

He's a bastard through and through, living in a kingdom of selfish and stupid predators, and part of the grand tradition of tricksters.

Not many have heard of this one. Super Mario Bros. Special was a Hudson-developed PC port of Nintendo's flagship game, never released here. It's... bad.

Some "new" powerups show up, like the hammer from Donkey Kong and a wing that lets you "fly". The Japanese computers it ran on didn't allow for scrolling levels, though, so it was one screen to the next, with transitions often a literal leap of faith. Colors are weirdly off, and the animation flickers like crazy. Levels have been reworked significantly, usually in a very bizarre way. An interesting curiosity.

RIP

She was very sweet. She had an odd kink in her tail (she wasn't actually fluffy at all)

This picture should not be considered representative -

Cats I Have Known:

Tiffy

She liked gently chewing on the boys' ears to wake them up, getting in your face while at the computer and nuzzling you, howling quite a bit before we had her spayed, and teasing the older cat unmercifully in her youth.

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dumb shit in my office

A bust of Beethoven, earned long ago - age 6? when taking piano lessons (which I barely remember) as a reward for practicing diligently. (I was a Peanuts fan, and wanted to emulate Schroeder a bit).

Studies show that holding a warm drink causes you to treat people more warmly, while holding a cold drink tends to make you more skeptical and alert.

Adjust your social drinking preferences accordingly.

Before it was Memorial Day, it was "Decoration Day." People would clean and add flowers to the graves of war dead. May 30 was chosen as flowers were blooming then, and it wasn't the anniversary of any specific battle.

Know Your

RATIONS

A: Fresh/perishable food.

B: Packaged food that requires preparation

C: Re-prepared food

D: Survival chocolate - deliberately made to taste bad so you wouldn't eat it unless you have to.

K: 3 boxed meals for emergency use. Didn't last very long in the military.

And in WWII, you got 22 sheets of toilet paper per day. Unless you were Irish (3) or Russian (figure it out yourself, peasant)

FINLAND (well, "Suomi," really) - our newest NATO buddies

♪ the country where I quite want to be ♪

represents water
represents snow.
> Nice and straightforward.

#1 country in the world on the "World Happiness Score" (2024)

- Gorgeous wilderness areas all through here
- Part of Sweden until 1809
- Part of Russia until 1917, when some stuff happened and they were able to become independent
- Made some real bad choices in WWII to try to get land back from Russia/USSR
- Tried staying neutral in the Cold War, and largely succeeded
- Joined the EU when the Cold War ended, and joined NATO thanks to Putin

Territory of the Sami - an indigenous European people

Very reliable & well-regarded railway system!

Not very mountainous!

Cross country skiing very popular.

A shit-ton of lakes!

Helsinki (named for river rapids)

Very big on saunas - it gets real damn cold.

One of (if not the) the biggest coffee drinkers per capita worldwide.

Has its own form of baseball - pesäpallo - their official game.

(The field looks like this)